

MAR 30 1925 ✓

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✓
"THE PACEMAKERS" ✓

By

H.C. Witwer ✓

✓
Episode #3 ✓

"Merton of the Goofies" ✓ ✓

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✓ Story by H.C. Witwer
✓ Scenario by ~~H.C. Witwer~~ Beatrice Van ✓
Directed by Wesley Ruggles
Photographed by J.S. Brown
Released by F. B. O.
Footage
Reels - 2
Released March 29, 1925.

CAST

Nita O'Neill _____ Alberta Vaughn

Tom Granger _____ George O'Hara

Steve Murphy _____ Albert Cooke

Sam Jasbo _____ Kit Guard

Morton Randolph _____ Stanley Taylor

"THE PACEMAKERS"

Episode #3

Synopsis

It is early morning and Tom Granger is introduced driving a milk wagon to enable him to work his way through college. Merton Randolph enters the scene, driving his roadster, and seeing Tom, laughs maliciously and swerves his car so that one end of his front bumper catches in the spoke of the wagon's back wheel, causing it to collapse. Tom is furious and bawls Merton out threatening to knock his block off, but Merton informs Tom that he is not fighting any milk men this year, promising him, however, that he will have the chance later, and throws Tom a ten dollar bill to buy himself a new milk wagon.

Tom is next shown in his room reading a notice from the Stranglers Club to the effect that he is to get initiated into their society that evening. He is just putting the finishing touches to dressing for the occasion when two of the fraternity boys enter his room and proceed to give him instructions, informing him that he must address them as, "Sir", and when he is carressed with a paddle, he must say, "Thank you, sir - I like it, sir," etc.

Nita O'Neill and her grandfather are introduced in the drug store. A group of the boys are concocting a plan with one of the girls who stands near them. Merton enters and from the activities assumes that the boys are preparing to initiate Tom into the Stranglers, which fact he resents as he was unable to make the Club, himself. Tom enters the drugstore, carrying a paddle over each shoulder, like a rifle, and followed by the two boys who called at his room. They order him to kindly refrain from speaking to any women. Nita sees Tom and goes forward with a glad smile to greet him, but Tom is forced to turn his back and ignore her. Nita is naturally very much hurt, until the boys put her wise to the gag, and Tom is very uncomfortable.

As a climax to the initiation stunts, Tom is forced to enter a sorority house and steal all the powder puffs, in the absence of the girls. He enters a room, finds it occupied with a girl in bed---she demands to know why he is there--he tries to explain in pantomime. The chaperone enters the room - discovers Tom and threatens to report the incident to the President at once. Tom is frantic. The stranglers persuade her not to tell - she

(more)

promises, under the condition that Tom marry the girl. There is nothing else for Tom to do but submit.

The Strangers go so far as to have a fake wedding ceremony, and after it is all over, Tom is almost overcome with relief to discover that his "bride" is nothing more than a female impersonator.

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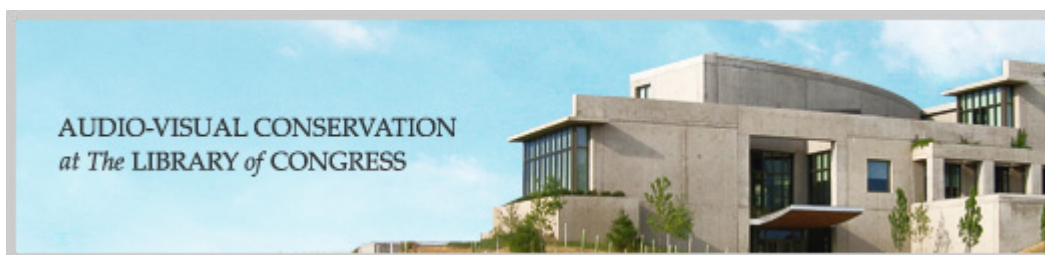
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